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## *House of Representatives*

### REMEMBERING STEFANO GIUSEPPE RIBOLI

#### REP. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

Madam Speaker, I rise to remember a great Angeleno, Stefano Giuseppe Riboli, who passed away on July 3, 2019, at the age of 97. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, and lived a joyous life filled with the love of family and friends. To the people of Los Angeles, he was also cherished as the patriarch of San Antonio Winery, who led the winery's growth into the thriving, century-old local institution it is today.

Stefano was a Los Angeles native. He was born in the city on September 8, 1921, to Italian immigrant parents. However, when he was three, his family moved back to Italy, and Stefano grew up there in the small mountain village of Berzo San Fermo. In the springs and summers, he shepherded cows in the local Alpine mountain pastures, and those experiences helped give him his lifelong fondness for nature and animals.

When Stefano was 16, he returned to Los Angeles to work at San Antonio Winery, which his uncle, Santo Cambianica, had founded in 1917 in the Italian-American neighborhood of Lincoln Heights. Santo mentored Stefano, and his friendly and helpful attitude to people of all backgrounds set an example that Stefano carried forward throughout his life.

Thanks in large part to Stefano's hard work, his kind and cheerful manner, and the love and support of his family, San Antonio Winery rose from its humble beginnings to become Los Angeles's largest and longest-producing winery, recently honored as

2018's American Winery of the Year by Wine Enthusiast Magazine. And just as in its early days, the winery is a family enterprise, with all of Stefano's children and many of his grandchildren working there.

San Antonio Winery is much more than just a winery to the Los Angeles community. It is a place where people of all backgrounds can meet and enjoy each other's company. All are welcome, from families to business leaders to tourists. And Stefano's charm and his remarkable memory were essential to the winery's convivial spirit. He was known as "Papa Steve," and would regale visitors with stories of the winery's history and his days growing up in Italy—always with a smile on his face and a glass of wine at the ready. His outgoing disposition was infectious, and encouraged visitors to come back again and again.

For 73 years, Stefano was blessed by the strong and loving union he shared with his wife, Maddalena. Their support and devotion to each other nurtured their children and grandchildren, their winery, and their entire community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in sending our deepest condolences to the family of Stefano Giuseppe Riboli, including Maddalena, their children Santo (Joan), Cathy (Nino), and Steve (Sindee), their grandchildren Anthony, Steve, Lisa, Michael, Jennifer, David, Dante, Blake, Christopher, and Alex, and their seven great-grandchildren. Stefano will be greatly missed by Angelenos of all ages and walks of life, but we know that his gracious and gentle spirit will always live on in the family he loved and the business he led.